

Since there has already been substantive action on the Group I claims, Applicant wishes to continue with prosecution of those claims and thus provisionally elects Group I (Claims 1 and 5-21); with traverse however.

It is noted that Group I contains both method claims (1) and system claims (5-13, 14-21) which include recitation of time stamping, in one form or another.

It is noted that direct recitation of time stamping, in one form or another, is further included in the following claims that are outside of Group I: Claim 3 {end of paragraph (a)}; Claim 4 {para (c.1)}; Claim 30 {para (h)}; Claim 32 {para (i)}; Claim 36 {para (a) --this claim is a subcombination of time stamping as in paragraph (a) plus rate creep as in para (b)}; Claim 41 {para (b)}; and Claim 43 {para (b)}.

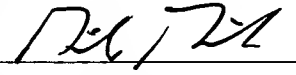
In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner re-define the scope of elected Group I to include more of the claims that recite time stamping directly (as in the above list) or indirectly (due to incorporation by reference of dependent claims).

Request for Change of Restriction

In view of the above it is requested that at least the restriction lines drawn between Groups I and IV be rescinded. It is requested that claim 3 be moved out of Group III and into this expanded group. A telephone call to the below attorney is requested if it will help expedite processing of the application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2257 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time and/or fee for additional claims, which may be required.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on Monday, February 21, 2006.

 2/21/2006

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Date of Signature

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Respectfully submitted,



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